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ation, construction, and concomitant appendages of this mansion. The garden formed on the lower part of the mountain's southern face, and under its prominent brow, enjoys the genial warmth of the summer sun, in perfect security from the blighting nip of the northern blast. Its enclosed ground is cast by the moulding hand of nature into a hollow shape with collateral ridges to produce shelter, and serve as a kind of focus to the solar rays. The cottage is convenient to the Dublin road, and yet in retirement from its thoroughfare, as well as from the hurry of the town. It commands a view of the lake, a private circular road of pleasure, that surrounds it, together with the contiguous mountains, and fertile fields.

Nature and art have united to leave it at no point exposed to storms. Permitted to take a transient glance of its interior, we presume to observe, that, with the exception of a kitchen upon too limited a scale, it seems to be well laid out. The decoration of the walls and ceiling exhibits masterly execution; the apartments are more than sufficiently lofty for the design of a cottage, the furniture is of the best quality, and so far as we could judge, of the first fashion. In a niche of the wall, outside, and fronting the lake, as well as the adjoining cultivated grounds, stands a large and beautiful statue of the goddess Ceres, holding in her hands the emblems of her goddesship.

An ornamental temple is at present in building, immediately between the cottage and the garden, and so far up Slieve-na-Slat, as to command a fine prospect of the entire northern side of Mourne mountains, the Irish sea, a large extent of coast, with a considerable portion of the fruitful barony of Lecale. The workmen at this structure stated it as intended to be raised in stone and wood, to the height of eighty-two feet, to be furnished with music bells, and other tasteful ornaments of a pleasure-house. The interior decorations of this temple, however beautiful and grand they may be, will be far surpassed by the beauties placed within the range of its view. In its immediate rear, are a wood of native hazel, annually loaded with nuts, and a mountain clad in blooming heath, in eminence soaring far above its boasted height. Under its foot are the garden, with all its varieties on this side, and the cottage with all its perfection on that. Before it, here, are the snug village, the public road, and the bustling market; there, the neat cabin of the industrious peasant, his cultivated fields and browsing flocks, the curious and costly edifice of the noble lord, with all its accompanying refined improvements and rich demesne, the flourishing, and the ruined castle, the lofty dome and humble cot. Yonder, the ocean expands with all its varied exhibition in the sunshine and the shade, the calm and the tempest. Yonder too, stand on immoveable bases, romantic mountains hiding the summits of their exalted cones amongst the clouds, seated by nature's hand above this nether world, and much beyond the limited ken of man.

At Castlewellan I parted with my companions, and here for the present, ends the tour. S.E.

Ballinahinch.

To the Proprietors of the Belfast Magazine.

ON reading an Account of Strabane, in the Magazine for October, I was surprized to observe a mistatement of a fact which had about four years ago been stated at considerable length in the Belfast News-Letter, and stands to this day uncontradicted. The writer of the article in question says, that "every well-wisher to his country, in the province of Ulster, venerates the names of Henry and Robert Joy, the founders of much of the wealth and prosperity of Belfast," this being coupled with the writer's remarks on the character of Mr. Ross, implies as much as that Henry and Robert Joy were the introducers of the Cotton Manufacture into Belfast, which in respect to Henry Joy is erroneous, as he was not concerned in the commencement of the business. Thomas M'Cabe and Robert Joy being the persons, who, contrary to the opinion of some, and without the pecuniary assistance of any other, had the first spinning jenny, and the first carding engine, made at their own expense; and were

the first to attempt the establishment of the business.

When I read the paragraph alluded to, I did conceive that a degree of injustice had been done to Thomas M'Cabe, by his name being sunk in the history of a transaction which is much to his honour; and thought I recollected reading a statement in the News-Letter, about the period of the death of Nicholas Grimshaw, which took rise from some of Mr. Grimshaw's panegyrists attributing to him the merit of introducing the cotton manufacture into Ireland. I therefore this day called on the editor of that paper, who showed me the publication, where a full statement is made of the facts. The purport of this letter, is to suggest to you the propriety of setting the matter on its proper foundation, by republishing in the next number that statement which may be found in the paper of date 7th May, 1805.

I have two reasons for suggesting the re-publication of the article, justice to a highly worthy and respectable individual, and that a circumstance which so nearly concerns the town of Belfast, and the cotton manufacture of Ireland, should not be allowed to be hidden in an old newspaper, but be committed to a work of more permanence, and as such in my mind no article can be more suitable to the Belfast Magazine. I have a Belfast Almanack of the year 1803 before me, in which it is stated that the Poor-house "may be considered as the cradle of the cotton manufacture, it being in it that Thomas M'Cabe and the late Robert Joy, in 1777, set their first carding-engine and spinning-jennies to work," where they were kept going for many years for the benefit of the Poor. I am, your obedient servant. D.

Belfast, 7th Nov. 1809.

Authentic History of the Introduction of the Cotton Machinery into Ulster; from the Belfast News-Letter, May 1st, 1805.

"So early as the year 1777, on a tour through North Britain, the late Robert Joy conceived the scheme of introducing into this then desponding kingdom the more intricate branches of the Cotton manufacture, which had proved unfailing sources of industry and opulence to the sister country. To this he was principally prompted by a desire to render service to the lower orders of the working poor, particularly linen weavers and spinners, whose livelihoods are often rendered precarious, when a nation depends, as ours then did, almost solely on a single manufacture, sometimes as much depressed as at others prosperous*."

Having in conjunction with Thomas M'Cabe, suggested that the spinning of Cotton-yarn, might, as an introductory step, be a fit and profitable employment for children in the Belfast Poor House; several of them were accordingly set to work on the common wheel; but the various machinery in England giving that country so great a superiority, it was found that no benefit could be gained without the introduction of it here.

A spinning machine was therefore made in Belfast, at *their* instance and expense, under the direction of Mr. N. Grimshaw, cotton and linen printer, from England, who had some time before settled in this country. And shortly after an experienced spinner was brought over by Mr. Joy from Scotland to instruct the children in the house. Also under the same direction, and at the expense of the gentlemen mentioned, a carding machine was erected, to go by water, at Mr. Grimshaw's, which was afterwards removed to the Poor-house, and wrought by hand.

After Messrs. Joy and M'Cabe had in vain solicited the co-operation and pecuniary aid of others, in prosecuting a scheme fraught with such national advantage, they proposed a transfer of their machinery at first cost to the managers of the Charitable Institution, promising as strict attention to the success of the measure as if the emolument were to be their own.

On the refusal of the Committee to run the risk of a new undertaking, the original proprietors formed

* Extract from an account of the death of the late Mr. Robert Joy, Dublin Evening Post, April 1785, when the general facts contained in this paper were recent.

themselves into a company, with additional partners, under the firm of Joys, M'Cabe, and M'Cracken, and contracted with the same charitable institution, for the employment of a number of its children, as well as for the use of their vacant rooms. They dispatched a skilful mechanic to England, who at personal risk and considerable expense, procured a minute knowledge of the most improved British machinery, which the inventors and proprietors intended to have kept a secret both from this and foreign countries. On his return they erected a new carding machine of superior structure to the first imperfect one, and a spinning jenny, of 72 spindles, then reckoned a large one, differing materially in its construction from the other.

In a memorial to the Dublin Society, praying for aid, from which the substance of this statement of facts is principally extracted, they informed the board, that so far from confining their hopes of gain to themselves, they had encouraged the public to avail itself of their discoveries. They had exposed their machinery to open view, permitted numbers, even from distant parts, to be taught in their apartments, without any charge for such indulgence; and promoted the progress of the manufacture of Cottons, Dimities, and Marseilles quilting, equally by example and instruction.

The magnitude of those improvements at the time is now to be estimated by comparison. Prior to this, from 8 to 10 cuts per day were the scanty produce of the most laborious spinner on the common wheel, while in the same time not more than a single pound could be carded by hand. On their Jenny of 72 spindles, 72 Irish hanks were spun weekly, an increase of 14 to one. And by their carding machine, twenty pounds of rovings were daily thrown off, an increase of twenty to one. These exertions were in time followed, on an enlarged scale, by Messrs. Nat. Wilson and Nich. Grimshaw, both since deceased. To the talents, property, and adventurous spirit of the former of these two gentlemen, and to the practical knowledge, genius, and industry of the latter, this country stands very highly indebted.

The first mill for spinning twist by water in Ireland, was built by them in the year 1784, from which date the Irish Cotton manufactures were considered firmly established.

In the year 1800, only twenty-three years from the origin of the enterprize by Joy and M'Cabe, it appeared in evidence before Parliament, that the Cotton manufactures which they had thus introduced, gave employment to 13,500 working people, and including all manner of persons occupied in various ways, to twenty-seven thousand, within a circuit of only ten miles, but comprehending within its bounds the towns of Belfast and Lisburn.

It deserves remark, that as far as machinery is concerned, a Poor-house was the cradle of the cotton trade of Ireland; and that the detail now given should be a stimulus to the exertions of every individual, it demonstrates how much may be effected by a limited capital and ardent zeal.

In the present instance, the early introduction of a manufacture, already of immense and increasing importance, has been traced to the perseverance of two members of society, actuated by a wish to create useful employment for unfortunate infants; to assist the working classes, at a time when the Linen manufacture was in its most depressed state, and to render a permanent benefit to the community at large.

Whoever wishes to inquire further into the subject, may see an original document, which is left at the Belfast News-Letter Printing Office; they are also referred to the Memorial itself to the Dublin Society, and to minutes in the books of the Belfast Charitable Society.

To the Proprietors of the Belfast Magazine.

SCOTCH LAW AND POLITENESS.

GENTLEMEN,

IF the following narrative is deemed worthy a place in your valuable Magazine, you are at liberty to insert it; you may rely on its veracity; I